

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (currently amended): The improvement of claim ± 10, wherein the ~~arc forms~~ a radius is of about .04 inches.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The improvement of claim ± 10, wherein the locking latch is constructed substantially in accordance with the dimensions shown in Figure 2a.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The improvement of claim ± 10, wherein such improvement delays contact between the side of the slot and the locking latch while a taper on the connector being stabbed through the slot positions the connector vertically within the slot more quickly than without the delay.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The improvement of claim ± 10, wherein such improvement delays contact between the side of the slot and the locking latch, so that a longer lever arm is created to apply force to pivot the locking latch as it

is stabbed through the slot than would be created without the delay.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The improvement of claim ± 10, wherein such improvement delays contact between the side of the slot and the locking latch, so that the lateral friction created between the connector already in the slot, and the connector that is being stabbed through the slot, is substantially reduced from the lateral friction created without the delay.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The improvement of claim ± 10, wherein such improvement delays contact between the side of the slot and the locking latch, so that during the delay, the connector being stabbed through the slot can be adjusted vertically to a position where it locks with the connector already in the slot.

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (new): In a suspended ceiling grid with a main beam and a cross beam, said main beam having a slot between opposing sides, said cross beam having an end with a connector therein;

the improvement comprising

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a locking latch with a radius, straight portion and end, so that when said connector is stabbed through said slot, said end of said locking latch passes through the slot and is retained on an opposing side of said main beam from said cross beam.

Claim 11 (new): In combination, the improvements set forth in claims 2 through 10, above.

Claim 12 (new): A connector set forth in claims 2 through 10 that requires substantially less force over a shorter distance with the improvements set forth in claim 11, to lock the connectors to each other and to the main beam, than is required without the improvements.